



Greenwood Forest

Baptist Church

Oct. 22, 2023



Scan for Digital

Bulletin Art Golden Calf

Generative AI through Adobe Firefly

A golden calf looms above us on a pedestal against a stormy sky. The calf looks ominous, stern, and insistent as the idols we create often begin to make demands of their own, whether we like it or not. Our idols are not idle things, but sources of power that exert control on our lives.

- Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

(Note: Unlike other popular generative AI image creators, Adobe Firefly is trained on images Adobe already owns, openly licensed content, and public domain content where copyright has expired.)



Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church

an inclusive
community
of faith

Welcome

We are so glad you've chosen to join us this week. Greenwood Forest Baptist Church is an inclusive community of faith, which means we welcome, affirm, and include all God's people in their diversity of genders, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, ages, abilities, and backgrounds. We are each beloved by God and we are happy to welcome you to our church exactly as you are.

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REMINDERS



Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers. There is also a glider in the back of the sanctuary if you need to rock your little ones.



Hearing assistance devices are available at the back of the sanctuary along with a transcript of the sermon.



Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.



Gender-neutral, single-occupant bathrooms are located at the back of the sanctuary in the Narthex.



gfbccary.org



[greenwoodforestcary](https://www.facebook.com/greenwoodforestcary)



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Announcements Church Events and Updates

Let's hear your stories!

For the 60th Anniversary Celebration, we are collecting stories from the congregation of highlights of the past sixty years. What is an experience you've had at GFBC that you're grateful for? What was a high water mark for you? What memories, friends, and experiences do you treasure the most? We're looking for stories between 250-750 words to be shared in a collection with the congregation on November 19 at our celebration. Email stories to Rev. Spears-Newsome at wesley.spears-newsome@fbccary.org.

Fall Festival on Oct. 29!

Our annual Fall Festival will be on October 29 at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall and outside. Bluegrass Battleship will be playing music!

We'll have our annual chili cook-off, as well. If you'd like to sign up, visit fbccary.org/chili23. Let us know by Oct. 25! There will be a children's bake-off and a youth baking competition, as well! Those do not require advance sign-ups.

We can't wait for you to join us!

All Saints Requiem Concert

On Sunday, November 5 at 5pm a collection of church choirs from Cary and Raleigh will be performing John Rutter's *Requiem* with orchestra at Kirk of Kildaire during a special All Saints concert. Our choir will join and Rev. Dr. Stacks will be helping to conduct. The names of all beloved members of each church who have died in the past year will be recognized. Join us for this meaningful concert! Donations at the event will benefit Habitat for Humanity of Wake County.

FREEDOM RIDE '24



Trip to Tucson, Arizona Summer 2024

We're taking a new trip this year for the Freedom Ride, this time to the U.S.-Mexico border in Arizona. We'll be traveling as a group with an organization called **Borderlinks** based in Tucson, AZ.

We'll engage in some service, learning, and relationship-building activities with longtime residents of the borderlands and the migrants who cross them. The trip is scheduled for June 30-July 6. We'll be traveling by plane to AZ (not by bus!) and will be staying at a Borderlinks facility designed to accommodate groups like ours.

Register at fbccary.org/tucson soon as spots are limited. Deadline to register is January 31. If you have questions, please direct them to Rev. Spears-Newsome.

Office Closure

The church office will be closed the week of October 22 while Karen Burden, our office administrator, is on vacation. Please direct communications to the relevant ministerial staff member via email.

Community Notes Prayer Requests and Giving



PRAY

Please keep in prayer these members of our community and their friends and family. To add a name to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Names rotate off and can be re-added upon request.

Nell Allen
Bess Averre
Gilles Bikindou
Valerie Brooks
Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser family)
Barbara Dial (sister of Carol Carter)
Elaine Dodson
James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)
Anjar Hossain (friend of Kevin Schaefer)
Tony Izador (family of Roz Slawson)
Aaliyah Murray (family of Gail Jones)
Katheron E. Palmer (mother of Randy Palmer)
Fred Seeger
Eddie Stewart (friend of Diana Morde)
Mathias Warne (family of Gail Jones)
Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist in Cuba



GIVING

All of the ministries of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church are supported by members of our community like you. Thank you! Supporting us is easy. You can:

- Give online at gfbccary.org/give
- Place your gift in the offering plate before or after worship.
- Set up an automated bank draft through the church office.
- Set up a recurring gift through your bank's "bill pay" function.

A monthly finance update is available in the weekly church email. If you're not receiving our weekly email and would like to, please contact the church office.

Monthly Ministry Highlight:

Outreach Ministry

GFBC's presence in the community goes far beyond mission projects and partnerships! We host multiple recovery groups, community choirs, the PRIDE of Cary group, and more. People from all across the community connect with our space, our people, and our leadership outside of Sunday morning and Cary wouldn't be the same without these relationships. Keep an eye out for Outreach-sponsored events this fall, like the Fall Festival next month! **Your gifts make this ministry possible!**



CELEBRATING SIXTY YEARS OF
Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church

For sixty years, Greenwood Forest Baptist Church has been an inclusive community of faith in Cary, North Carolina. Come join us to celebrate our history and legacy as we look toward what the future has in store for us!

November 19 @ 110 SE Maynard Rd Cary, NC

11:00am Thanksgiving Worship Service
(Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell preaching)

12:00pm Luncheon in Fellowship Hall
(suggested donation: \$10)

Please RSVP at gfbccary.org/gfbc60.

Order of Worship 21th Sunday after Pentecost

✝ This icon indicates an invitation to stand or express reverence however you see fit.

📖 This icon indicates a worship aid is available in the righthand column.

🎵 Hymns and song lyrics are available in the songbook following the Order of Worship.

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude | *Praise to the Lord the Almighty* | arr. McChesney
Handbell Ensemble

Welcome to Worship | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks*

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (from Ps. 96) | *Rev. Amanda Warren*

O sing to the Lord a new song;

Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord, bless God's name;

Tell of God's salvation from day to day.

Declare God's glory among the nations,

God's marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

God is revered above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are idols,

But the Lord made the heavens.

Honor and majesty are before the Lord;

Strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary.

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,

Bring an offering, and come into God's courts.

Worship the Lord in holy splendor;

Tremble before God, all the earth.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

Let the filed exult, and everything in it.

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

For God is coming to judge the earth.

God will judge the world with righteousness and truth.

Today's color is **green**, representing growth and new life.

The cellist this morning is
Lauren Dunseath.

The Passing of the Peace

The passing of the peace is a symbolic enactment of the reconciling love and mercy of God in our midst. We express it through a peace sign, a handshake, a wave, or many other expressions of peace. Be mindful and considerate of others' desire for physical space or distance.

Prayer in Worship

We use many kinds of prayers in worship. The Call to Worship is a communal prayer using call and response. The Invocation is a single individual inviting (or invoking) God into our worship this morning. The Prayers of the People uses intercessory prayer to ask God to come to the world's aid. The benediction is a blessing offered over those gathered in worship.

Invocation | *Rev. Warren*

† **Hymn** | *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above (vv. 1, 3, 5; pg. 8)*

Offertory Prayer | *Steve Denning*

Offertory | *"Sarabande" from Cello Suite No. 3 by JS Bach* 📖

† **Doxology** | *Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH* 📖

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

The Prayers of the People | *Rev. Spears-Newsome* 📖

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

† **Hymn** | *Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult (pg. 9)*

Reading | *Exodus 32:1-14* | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | *Out of the Deep from Requiem (pg. 10)*

Sermon | *On Golden Calves and Masculinity* | *Rev. Dr. Stacks*

† **Hymn** | *Waymaker (pg. 10)* 📖

Benediction | *Rev. Dr. Stacks*

Postlude | *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* | *arr. Larson*

The Offertory

During the offertory music, we pass plates across the pews as a way to make our collective offering to God and the wellbeing of this community.

The Doxology

A "doxology" is a short hymn that usually praises the Trinity. We sing the doxology as we present our offerings back to God.

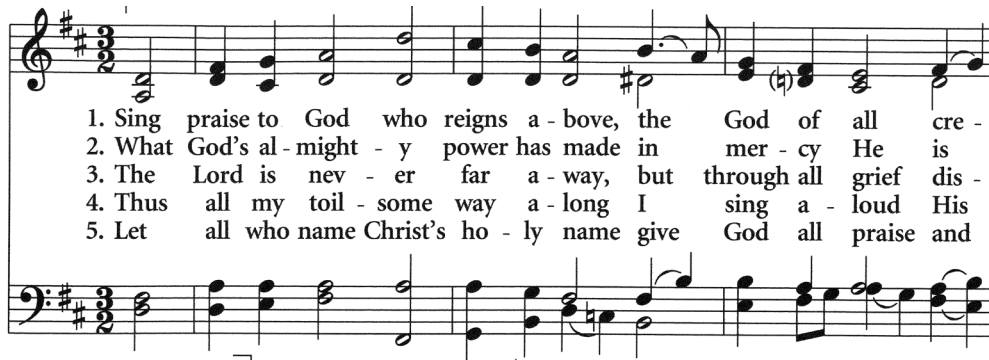
The Prayers of the People

This prayer typically has five parts: a confession, prayers for the earth, prayers for the world, prayers for the church, and prayers for those with needs in our own community.

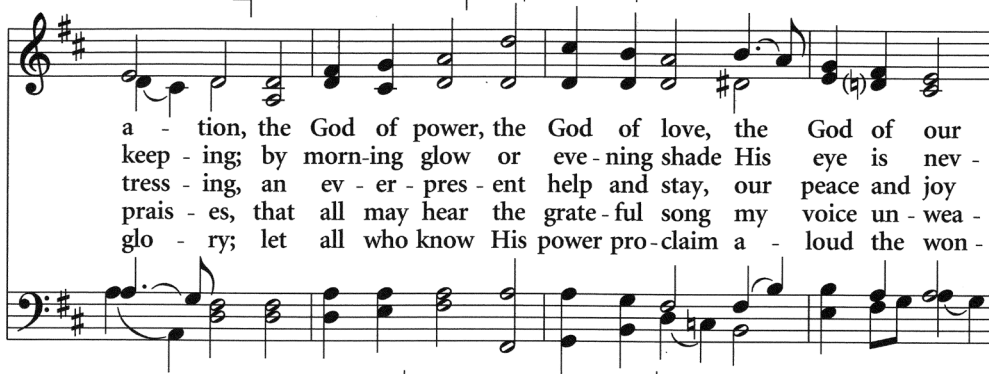
Final Hymn: An Invitation

During the final hymn, if you'd like to join our community at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, we invite you to come forward to the altar. When you come forward, you'll be greeted by a minister and a deacon who will then introduce you to the congregation after the hymn. Welcome!

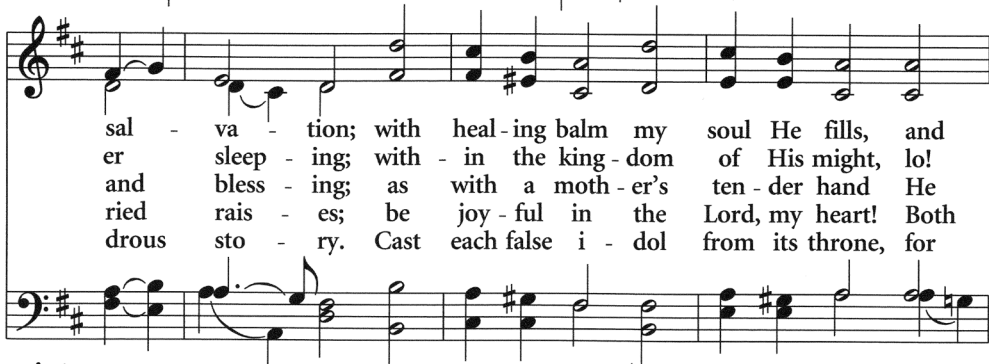
Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above



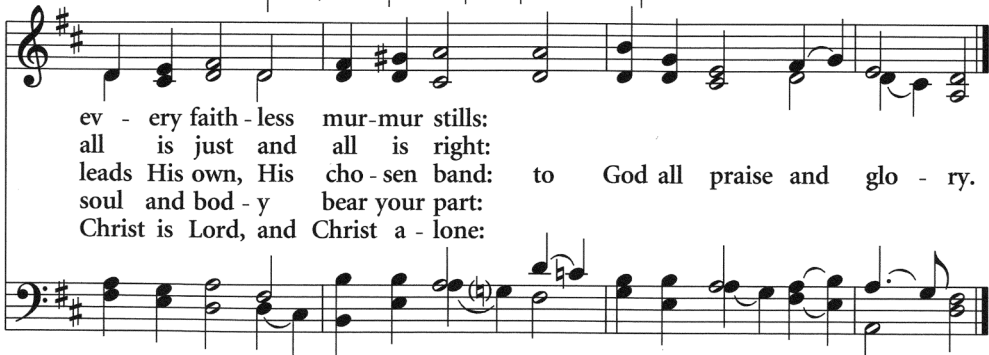
1. Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
2. What God's al - might - y power has made in mer - cy He is
3. The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -
4. Thus all my toil - some way a - long I sing a - loud His
5. Let all who name Christ's ho - ly name give God all praise and



a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our
keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade His eye is nev -
tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay, our peace and joy
prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song my voice un - wea -
glo - ry; let all who know His power pro - claim a - loud the won -



sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul He fills, and
er sleep - ing; with - in the king - dom of His might, lo!
and bless - ing; as with a moth - er's ten - der hand He
ried rais - es; be joy - ful in the Lord, my heart! Both
drous sto - ry. Cast each false i - dol from its throne, for



ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stills:
all is just and all is right:
leads His own, His cho - sen band: to God all praise and glo - ry.
soul and bod - y bear your part:
Christ is Lord, and Christ a - lone:

Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics for the first system are:

1. Je-sus calls us o'er the tu-mult of our life's wild rest-less sea;
2. Je-sus calls us from the wor-ship of the vain world's gold-en store,
3. In our joys and in our sor-rows, days of toil and hours of ease,
4. Je-sus calls us: by Your mer-cies, Sav-ior, may we hear Your call,

The second system also has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics for the second system are:

day by day His sweet voice sound-eth, say-ing "Chris-tian, fol-low me!"
from each i-dol that would keep us, say-ing "Chris-tian, love me more."
still He calls in cares and plea-sures, "Chris-tian, love Me more than these."
give our hearts to full o-be-dience, serve and love You best of all.

Waymaker

You are here, moving in our midst,
I worship you, I worship you.
You are here, working in this place,
I worship you, I worship you.
You are here, turning lives around,
I worship you, I worship you.
You are here, mending every heart,
I worship you, I worship you.

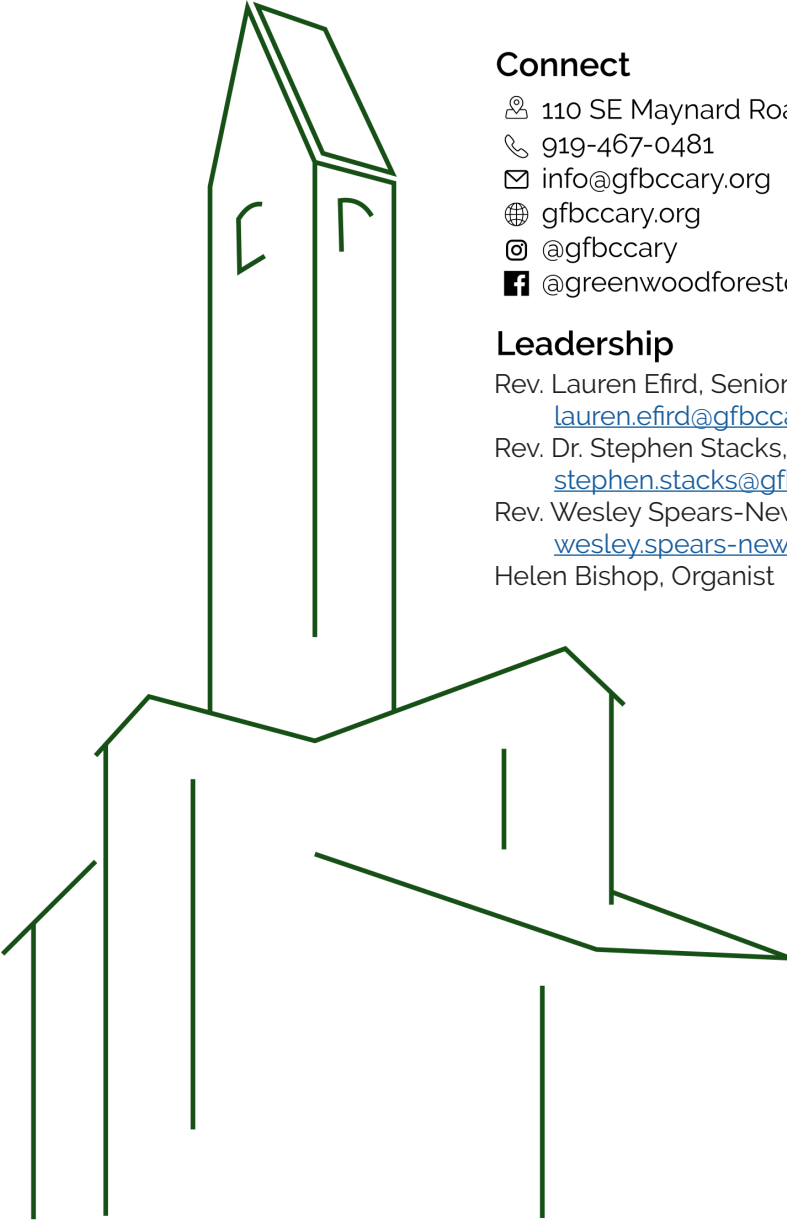
*Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness.
My God, that is who you are (x2)*

You are here, touching every heart,
I worship you, I worship you.
You are here, turning lives around,
I worship you, I worship you.

Anthem Out of the Deep from *Requiem*

arr. Rutter

Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice.
O let thine ears consider well: The voice of my complaint.
If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss:
O Lord, who may abide it?
For there is mercy with thee: therefore shalt thou be fear'd.
I look for the Lord:
my soul doth wait for him,
and in his word is my trust.
My soul fleeth unto the Lord: before the morning watch, I say,
before the morning watch.
O Israel, trust in the Lord;
With the Lord there is mercy,
and with him is plenteous redemption.
And he shall redeem Israel from all his sins.



Connect

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Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

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Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

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Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org

Helen Bishop, Organist
